

# ANGLERS:

## Do you need a life jacket?

Float tubes ■ Belly boats ■ Pontoon boats ■ Kick boats

**FISH SAFE: Wear a life vest!** Some life jackets are designed with anglers in mind, offering the “look” and convenience of a fish vest while still providing floatation. Make sure inflatable vests are U.S. Coast Guard approved.



**Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks**

RECOMMENDED



A Life Jacket is  
**NOT REQUIRED**  
but recommended when:

- Angler's body sits in the water
- Vessel is propelled by kicking fins
- Note: If a motor is attached, it is considered a boat. It must be registered as a motorboat and a life jacket is required to be carried on board

REQUIRED



A Life Jacket is  
**REQUIRED**  
to be on board if:

- Angler sits above the water surface
- Vessel is designed to be rowed or paddled.
- Angler might also use kicking fins
- Vessel can carry more than one person

Montana law requires all boats to carry a U.S. Coast Guard-approved wearable type life jacket for each person on board. Children under 12 are required to wear their life jacket when on board. For boats 16 feet in length and longer, an additional Type IV throwable PFD (boat cushion or ring buoy) must also be easily accessible on board. Montana Code Annotated 23-2-521.